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divine synthesis in Christianity. This thesis dominates the author's study of all the details, whether they are religious, literary or political. The book really gives us, therefore, only a single side of history. A comparison of Mr. Taylor's treatment of Roman history with that of Mr. Brooks Adams in his *Law of Civilization and Decay* gives interesting results. If one did not know the fact beforehand, it would hardly be possible to arrive at the conclusion that the two authors were attempting to interpret to us the same history, so entirely different are the two sides of it which they study. A measure of truth is with both, the whole truth is with neither. We shall have to wait a little longer for some one to give us the whole pattern of history. Meanwhile the books are of value which make an earnest and scholarly attempt to trace a single thread or to study a single color.

In his *History of Ancient Peoples* (New York, Putnam's Sons, pp. 541), Professor Willis Boughton seeks to bring together in a single volume the information relating to ancient times which first appeared in the various volumes of the *Story of the Nations* series, and to improve on it by additions of material from other writers. The book is, therefore, an abridgment and condensation of second-hand material, and its value is corresponding. That a professor of English literature should have undertaken this task shows that he was inspired more by the missionary impulse than by sound judgment. While there have been some good books published in the *Story of the Nations* series, others are already hopelessly out of date, and some of the latter have been employed by Professor Boughton. The result is unfortunate. The amount and variety of inaccurate statement contained in the book make it utterly untrustworthy. The specialist may smile when he sees the "great commercial house of Jacob and Sons" paraded again among the spoils of modern archaeological research, and reads that "the northern Semitic group includes the older dialects, such as Hunyatic (!), Sabaeen and Old Ethiopian," and learns that Merodach-Baladan "visited Hezekiah, who received him cordially," and discovers that Abraham did not remain at Haran, "just south of Damascus," and finds the "cuneiform inscription" on page 19 upside down, etc., etc. But he must needs mingle his enjoyment with some regrets on behalf of "the class-room and the reading-circle" for which this book has been prepared. A pretentious list of authorities covering four pages and made up of books of very varying importance, omits the two greatest works with which the subject of this book is concerned, viz., Duncker's and Meyer's histories of antiquity, though it does contain Allen's *History of Civilization*! Though the book seems to have been prepared with the assistance of a college president "who has diligently read all the recent German, French and Italian works on ancient history, and who has employed his extensive historic and philologic knowledge in the revision of this work in manuscript," so slovenly a piece of work in this field has seldom received the imprint of a high-class publishing house.

G. S. G.

Edmond Stapfer, of the Faculty of Protestant Theology in Paris, widely esteemed for his works on Palestinian life in the first century, has completed two or three volumes dealing in popular style with the person, authority and ministry of Christ. An excellent English version is the work of Louise Seymour Houghton (*Jesus Christ Before His Ministry*, 1896, pp. 181, *Jesus Christ During His Ministry*, 1897, pp. 265, Scribner). The purposes of an historical narrative predominate and the work has admirable qualities. On the basis of very searching inquiry, the author offers his positive version of the life and aims of Jesus with only a slight occasional reference to the criticism which yields these results. The methods of the cautious critical historian are here used by a man of restrained but ardent religious passion and the exposition wins favor by a simple and graceful style. In spirit the work is a coalescence of Renan and Vinet, a blending of scientific conscience, sympathetic intuition, and apologetic conviction. The outcome is harmonious neither with theological orthodoxy nor with radical criticism.

Any dissatisfaction with the book among historical inquirers will rest chiefly with Stapfer's borrowings from the Fourth Gospel. This source is recognized as not purely historical, but yet of secondary value as from the associate of an apostle and entitled to correct certain errors and deficiencies of the first three gospels. Without arguing the detailed questions of incident and chronology, we may hold that the picture of Jesus in the Synoptics will not coalesce with that of the Fourth Gospel, and that the present skillful effort results only in a portraiture which departs from both sources without offering a solution of their discrepancies. The personal Messianic claim of Jesus, the insistence upon his personality as offering a test of allegiance, is brought into the foreground; but this is surely the very peculiarity of the Fourth Gospel which in comparison with the others marks it as a theological presentation. With this main exception all classes of readers will find this a judicious and delightful work.

F. A. C.

In his second volume, covering the presidency of MacMahon (Paris, Félix Alcan, 1897, pp. xii, 549), M. E. Zevort has produced a more satisfactory piece of work than the first volume of his *Histoire de la Troisième République*. Proportions are better observed, and no subjects of importance are omitted or slightly passed over, as was the case in the preceding volume. Attention may specially be called to the portions dealing with the enactment of the constitutional laws of 1875; the unusual ministerial conditions, exceptionally unsettled even for France, between December, 1876, and December, 1877; and the resignation of MacMahon in January, 1879. The last two—the so-called “sixteenth of May,” 1877, and MacMahon's resignation less than two years later—are amongst the half-dozen or dozen episodes in recent French history which specially illumine the workings of cabinet government as a borrowed institution, in one country at least, and which might, furthermore, serve as a valuable corrective to the conclusions of American enthusiasts

who have studied the system only as it works in England. The author very neatly sums up these six years of MacMahon's presidency as being, of all the governments of France, the weakest and most irresolute in internal affairs and the most peaceful in foreign relations. An appendix of a hundred pages contains the constitutional and organic laws of 1875, several notable political speeches, and other documents of interest.

C. F. A. C.

The eighth volume of Mr. Paul L. Ford's new edition of the *Writings of Thomas Jefferson* comprises his correspondence, with certain other papers, from his inauguration in March, 1801, to the end of the year 1808. How great an amount of new matter it contains may be seen from the fact that of the 220 letters which are printed in this volume, only sixty-nine are to be found in the corresponding section of the Congressional edition of Jefferson's *Writings*. On the other hand, the old edition contained some seventy which are not to be found in the present volume. The most interesting new matters in this volume are the pieces relating to Jefferson's inaugural addresses and annual messages (his drafts and the comments of Madison and Gallatin), his various letters and memoranda respecting the proposed constitutional amendment intended to legalize the acquisition of Louisiana, and a series of letters which exhibit him as looking out with anxious friendliness to provide a succession of public offices, as nearly sinecures as possible, for his old friend John Page.

The Southern History Association begins its quarterly *Publications* (Vol. I., No. 1) with its January issue, of 88 pages. An account of the organization of the association is given, followed by an interesting and valuable survey of the present state and prospects of historical studies in the South by Dr. Stephen B. Weeks. It exhibits the historical work recently done by the Southern states, colleges and historical societies,—a notable record on the whole. The lack of extensive historical libraries is plainly the chief hindrance. Dr. Weeks emphasizes the need of better and fuller bibliographies, and the importance of publishing documentary materials rather than more essays. Mr. T. L. Cole presents a first installment, dealing with Alabama, of an elaborate bibliography of the statute law of the Southern states. Aside from the "Current Notes" of historical publication and progress and the excellent contributions already mentioned, the other contents of this first number call for no remark. The new journal is well printed and carefully edited. Its possibilities are manifest to anyone who thoughtfully surveys the Southern field. Its scientific importance remains, naturally, to be established by the future numbers. A scientific intention and spirit on the part of its chief promoters is, at any rate, already evident.

In No. 2 the most important pieces are a journal of a removal from Virginia to Alabama in 1818, and a series of extracts from the journal of the Moravian bishop Spangenberg concerning his travels in North Carolina in 1752. Mr. Cole continues, with Arkansas.

Dr. Douglas Brymner's *Report on Canadian Archives* for 1896 (pp. xxxiii, 87, 252, 79), is chiefly occupied with a calendar of state papers of Lower Canada and Upper Canada from 1813 to 1818. Dr. Brymner also prints *in extenso* a number of letters relating to events preceding the war of 1812. The letters of John Henry to Mr. H. W. Ryland and to Sir James Craig are here, we believe, for the first time printed in complete form. The comparison of these letters actually sent with the copies which Henry sold to Mr. Madison brings out several points of curious interest. Henry garbled his letters very extensively before selling them. The originals contain many expressions unfavorable to the Democrats, which are suppressed in the copies sold to the American government; but they contain no more substantial evidence of Federalist treason than the versions which were sold. The letters to Ryland relate to a visit to Boston in 1808, but the batch sold to Madison relate solely to Henry's mission of the next year, as reported to Craig.

The Government Printing Office has issued the third and fourth volumes of the *Report and Accompanying Papers of the Commission appointed by the President of the United States "to investigate and report upon the true divisional Line between the Republic of Venezuela and British Guiana."* Vol. III. (pp. 517) consists of a group of geographical reports and contributions by the secretary of the Commission and three experts whose aid it invoked. A report on the maps of the Orinoco-Essequibo region, made to the Commission early in the course of its deliberations, by Dr. Justin Winsor, is general in its nature. As the maps pertinent to the investigation are of two classes, those bearing an official character and those published by geographers, two elaborate and scholarly essays deal with these. Professor George L. Burr reports at length on the official maps encountered by him during his researches in European archives, and on others of the same class which came before the Commission; the secretary of the Commission, Mr. Mallet-Provost, on the cartographical testimony of geographers. The remainder of the volume,—more than half,—has been prepared by Mr. Marcus Baker, a professional geographer of the United States Geological Survey. He presents a series of Notes on the Geography of the Orinoco-Essequibo Region, and an elaborate bibliographical list of maps of that region. His original object was to make an exhaustive compilation of all the accessible geographical facts relating to the disputed area, and a complete list of maps. But the suspension of the work of the Commission upon the conclusion of the arbitration treaty between England and Venezuela suspended also his work, the results of which are therefore here presented in the form of what he prefers to call notes. Vol. IV. consists of an atlas, wherein are contained 76 well-executed maps. Of these, three show the physical geography of the disputed region. Twelve are drawn especially to illustrate the historical and diplomatic questions discussed in the previous volumes of the report. The remaining 61 are reproductions of maps, published and unpublished, of all periods from 1538 to 1875, which have

an individual importance to the objects which the Commission had before it. The first two volumes, which are to be historical in character, are expected to appear shortly. We shall notice them upon their appearance; meanwhile it is sufficient to say that never in the history of diplomacy, probably, has a boundary dispute been illustrated by a more thorough, penetrating, ingenious and impartial historical investigation than that which Professor Burr has devoted to this problem.